

Amendment of the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph [0017] with the following amended paragraph:

In vitro tests were conducted with three subgingival plaque bacteria associated with oral malodor. The MIC (Minimum Inhibitory Concentrations) study protocol is as follows. Chlorhexidine was used as a positive control and sterile water was used as a negative control. Menthol and Tween 80 was used as a solvent for Magnolia Bark Extract. Ninty-six ~~Nine six~~ well microtiter plates were used for this study. Each well contained 5×10^5 colony forming units/ml of bacteria, serially diluted agents and bacterial growth medium. All bacterial cultures were incubated at 37°C and stationary. Bacterial growth was estimated spectrophotometrically at 660 nm, after 48 hours. The MIC for each test bacteria was defined as the minimum concentration of test compound limiting turbidity to less than absorbance at 660 nm.

Please replace the paragraph [0031] with the following amended paragraph:

Given that Magnolia Bark extract is a hydrophobic compound, there are several methods, which may be used to enhance the release of the Magnolia Bark extract from the oral composition. In a chewing gum product, the gum base is ~~hydrophilic~~ hydrophobic which ~~would~~ does not facilitate the release of the Magnolia Bark extract. In an oral composition, the Magnolia Bark extract may be encapsulated, spray dried, formulated into the coating and combinations thereof.